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| American Soybean Association |
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| ****ASA Applauds as USMCA Takes Effect****   The North American trade agreement, which ensures U.S. soy growers maintain robust access to two of their top markets, enters into force July 1   **Washington, D.C. July 1, 2020.** After nearly a year of advocating on the Hill and online for a new North American free trade deal, the American Soybean Association (ASA) cheers the implementation of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).   Mexico is the #2 market for whole beans, meal and oil, and Canada is the #4 buyer of meal and #7 buyer of oil for U.S. soybean farmers, making the trade agreement essential to sustaining the growth realized in those two countries under the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Under NAFTA, U.S. soybean sales to Mexico quadrupled and to Canada doubled.   ASA expresses its strong appreciation to the Administration and Congress for coming together on this bipartisan effort to ratify the agreement, which was signed into law by President Trump in January 2020.   “USMCA is a win for U.S. soybean farmers and the American economy, as it restores certainty and stability to two important export markets for our farmers and lays a foundation for future growth,” said ASA President Bill Gordon, a soybean grower from Worthington, Minnesota. “In addition to securing the Mexican market as the second largest importer of U.S. soybeans, the terms agreed to by Canada will increase U.S. poultry and dairy exports, which is another positive for the ag industry.”  Gordon, who attended the USMCA signing in January at the White House, expressed gratitude to lawmakers and the Administration for seeing the trade deal through, as well as the soy growers who pushed tirelessly every step of the way.   “On behalf of ASA, I thank the Administration and Congress for making USMCA a priority, and the soy growers who took time from their fields to advocate, whether in-person or online, to make this agreement a reality,” said the farmer.   USMCA replaces NAFTA, maintaining zero tariffs on U.S. soybeans, improving transparency, support for biotechnology and innovation, and creates a rapid response mechanism to respond to trade challenges.  |

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|   ###      The American Soybean Association (ASA) represents U.S. soybean farmers on domestic and international policy issues important to the soybean industry. ASA has 26 affiliated state associations representing 30 soybean-producing states and more than 300,000 soybean farmers.    |

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| **For more information contact:**  |

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|   Jordan Bright, ASA Communications Manager, **jbright@soy.org**  |

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| Access this release online at [**SoyGrowers.com**](http://asa.informz.net/z/cjUucD9taT05NDMzODA5JnA9MSZ1PTExNDQ5NzYyODQmbGk9Nzg0NDA3MzY/index.html). |

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